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West Virginia Penitentiary Board of Directors' reports

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Report of the Board of Directors for the Penitentiary, of the State of West Virginia <1867>

Annual report of the Directors and Superintendent of the West Virginia Penitentiary <Year 1867>

Annual report of the Directors of the Penitentiary at Moundsville, W. Va. <Year 1870>

Annual report of the Board of Directors of the Penitentiary, at Moundsville, W. Va. <Fiscal year ending September 30, 1871, Fiscal year ending September 30, 1872>

Report of the Board of Directors of the Penitentiary at Moundsville, West Virginia <December 1, 1874 to December 13, 1876, December 1, 1876 to December 1, 1878, December 1, 1878, to December 1, 1880, December 1, 1880, to October 1, 1882>

Report of the Board of Directors of West Virginia Penitentiary <Two years ending September 30, 1886>

LLMC 00-496t

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Directors and Superintendent

OF THE

West Virginia Penitentiary,

FOR THE YEAR 1867.

WHEELING:
JOHN FREW, PUBLIC PRINTER.

1868.

REPORT.

To His Excellency A. I. Boreman,
Governor of West Virginia:

The undersigned Directors appointed to build a Penitentiary for the State of West Virginia, would respectfully submit this, their second Annual Report.

As suggested in our last report, we have encountered considerable difficulty in obtaining stone of the desired quality, but we have at length succeeded in securing all that could be desired for such a work. Owing to the distance at which the quarries are situated, the transportation adds materially to the cost.

We have contracted for the delivery of 1,400 perch of rubble and 7,750 perch of dimension stone, about 1,400 perch of which remains to be delivered upon the grounds.

Another cause of delay and additional cost, (unforseen at the time of our former report,) has arisen from the nature of the ground upon which the buildings are to be placed. Having encountered quicksand and gravel which was not of uniform hardness, we have been compelled to sink the foundation of cell building to the depth of ten feet. We have, however, by repeated adjustments of the several courses of stone, and cement, rectifying unequal settling, been able to overcome the difficulty, obtaining at length, such a foundation as will support any amount of weight that may be placed upon it. And at the same time making it utterly impossible that any convict should ever escape from this building by any process of tunneling.

We have laid in all about 4,600 perch of stone in the Superintendent's house, south cell building, and foundation of outer wall. Some six hundred feet in length of this outer wall has been raised to the level of the surface of the ground, done mostly by convicts and cheap labor, for the purpose of clearing the grounds of rubble stone, which encumbered the work upon the cell building.

It is estimated that we have now stone contracted for in sufficient quantity to finish the Superintendent's house, south cell building, and a large portion of the foundations for the outer wall.

The appropriations by the Legislature for this work have been as follows:

At the session of 1866		$ 50,000 00
At the session of 1867		50,000 00
Amounting to		$100,000 00
Refunded from Auditor		3,277 75
		$103,277 75
Of which your Directors have expended,		
For temporary cell building, stockade, kitchen, offices, &c., not for prison proper	$14,817 21	
For stone delivered	45,920 27	
For workmen, tools, teams, salaries, and other expenses to prosecute the work	32,511 21	
		$ 93,248 69
Balance unexpended		$ 10,029 06

We owe upon stone delivered	$13,941 71
On stone to be delivered on contract	11,000 00
To workmen and contingent expenses, about	1,500 00
	$25,441 71

A further appropriation of $75,000 00 will be needed to prosecute the work for the coming year.

The great danger of escape, and the expense of guarding the convicts, as at present, renders this a pressing necessity. When the convicts can be safely kept at night within the permanent cells, we shall be able to dispense with one half the guards at present employed.

Your Directors have been fully impressed with the necessity that the convicts should be securely confined, and have suffered much anxiety least fires should break out in the present temporary cell building which is wholly of wood, and have accordingly endeavored to have the most perfect police regulations in guarding them. Yet, after all our care, a fire, kindled by one of the convicts, was only discovered in time to save the building from destruction, which would undoubtedly have been attended with loss of life, as the convicts had been locked in their cells for the night.

And again, upon the morning of the 22d of August, 1867, some of the more desperate convicts conspired, and overpowering the guards, threw open the gates, and to the number of twenty-seven made their escape. All but eleven of these have been recaptured.

Having desperate men to deal with, such a conspiracy is liable to occur again, and admonishes us of the urgent necessity that the work be hurried on to completion.

We would request that the Legislature, at an early day of the coming session, appoint a committee to visit the institution, to satisfy themselves and the public as to the character of the work done, and of the manner in which we have thus far discharged the duties of our trust.

Appended will appear a summary report of the Treasurer, marked "A," showing balance of $5,029 06, which, with $5,000 yet undrawn from the Auditor's Office, makes the balance unexpended of former appropriations, $10,029 06.

It is proper to state that the Auditor has charged our building fund with several thousand dollars, expense for guards and criminal charges, which lessen by that much the balance of $5,000 still undrawn by the Board.

The proceeds of the shoe shop carried on by the convicts, shows a profit over expenditures of more than $2,000. So that in all, about $20,000 of former appropriations have been otherwise expended than for the prison buildings.

We herewith present the report of the Superintendent, marked "B," as to the number of convicts confined, and such other information as is usual in such a report.

We also append the report marked 'C," of the Physician at the Penitentiary, for the year ending November 30, 1867.

JAMES BURLEY,
DANIEL PECK,
GEO. W. BIER,
J. H. ATKINSON,
E. A. HILDRETH,
} *Board of Directors.*

Moundsville, Dec. 23, 1867.

TABLE A.

WEST VIRGINIA PENITENTIARY,
IN ACCOUNT WITH E. A. HILDRETH, *Treasurer:*

To cash, amount of Auditor's Warrants from July 18, 1866, to November 12, 1867	$95,000 00	1867. Dec. 18,	By cash paid orders of Board of Directors, from July 18, 1866, to Dec. 17, 1867, (as per receipts,)	$93,248 69
Refunded by W. P. Rhoades (Steward,)	221 10		On hand	5,029 06
Refunded by G. S. McFadden, (Superintendent,)	1,457 33			
Refunded by Auditor	1,599 32			
Total	$98,277 75			$98,277 75

The above exhibit shows all the money received and expended out of the two appropriations of $50,000 each, for construction of Penitentiary, leaving a balance in the hands of the Auditor of $5,000, besides cash on hand, $5,029 06.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

E. A. HILDRETH,
Treasurer.

Wheeling, Dec. 18, 1867.

TABLE B.

STATEMENT, Showing the number of Convicts at the beginning, received, discharged, pardoned, escaped, re-captured, deceased; average number, and the several Counties from which Convicts have been sent since the establishment of the West Virginia Penitentiary, August 23, 1866, to and including November 30, 1867.

NAMES OF COUNTIES.	No. at Beginning.	No. Received.	No. Discharged.	No. Pardoned.	No. Escaped.	No. Recaptured.	No. Deceased.	Average No.
Berkeley	1	13	--	--	4	2	--	---
Brooke	--	2	2	--	--	--	--	---
Boone	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	---
Braxton	--	2	--	--	1	1	--	---
Cabell	1	5	--	--	1	1	--	---
Gilmer	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	---
Hancock	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	---
Harrison	--	1	1	--	--	--	--	---
Jackson	--	2	--	--	1	1	--	---
Jefferson	--	3	--	--	--	--	--	---
Kanawha	--	7	--	--	5	4	--	---
Lewis	--	1	--	--	--	--	-	---
Marion	1	2	1	1	--	--	--	---
Marshall	4	2	3	1	1	1	--	---
Mason	--	4	2	--	1	1	--	---
Monongalia	2	3	3	--	--	--	--	---
Monroe	1	1	--	--	--	--	--	---
Morgan	--	5	1	--	--	--	--	---
Ohio	1	15	--	--	7	2	--	---
Pendleton	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	---
Pocahontas	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	---
Preston	5	1	--	--	--	--	--	---
Raleigh	1	1	--	--	1	--	--	---
Ritchie	--	3	--	--	1	1	--	---
Taylor	2	6	2	2	2	1	--	---
Tyler	--	1	1	--	--	--	--	--
Upshur	1	3	1	1	1	--	--	---
Wayne	--	2	--	--	1	1	--	---
Wetzel	--	1	--	--	1	1	--	---
Wirt	--	2	1	--	--	--	--	---
Wood	1	11	2	--	4	1	1	---
Wyoming	-	1	--	1	--	--	--	---
Total	16	109	21	6	32	18	1	104

Total Number confined November 30, 1867 ..... 83.

TABLE C.

Annual Report of the sick in the West Virginia Penitentiary, beginning December 1, 1866, and ending November 30, 1867.

	December.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September	October.	November.
Total No. sick during each month	10	15	16	13	15	16	14	19	17	9	10	12
" No. of days lost each month	89	105	107	98	80	53	32	72	71	71	45	25
CLASS OF DISEASES.												
Typhoid Fever	--	---	---	1	1	1	--	--	--	--	--	1
Diseases of Digestive System.												
Cholera Morbus	--	---	---	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--
Colic	--	---	---	1	--	1	1	1	1	2	--	--
Constipation	1	1	---	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Diarrhea, Acute	1	1	---	--	--	1	2	7	2	1	3	1
Dysentery, Acute	--	---	---	--	-	1	--	--	3	2	--	--
Gastritis	--	---	---	--	--	2	--	1	2	--	2	2
Hepatitis, Acute	--	---	---	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Jaundice	--	---	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Diseases of Respiratory System.												
Phthisis, Pulmonatis	1	1	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	2	1
Bronchitis, Acute	1	1	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	--
Asthma	--	---	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Catarrh	1	1	4	1	5	3	3	--	--	--	3	3
Laryngitis	2	4	1	--	1	--	--	--	--	1	--	1
Pleuritis	--	---	---	--	1	3	--	1	1	--	--	1
Diseases of Circulatory System.												
Pericarditis	--	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1
Anemia	1	---	3	1	1	--	4	--	3	2	--	--
Diseases of the Brain and Nervous System.												
Pariplegia	--	---	---	1	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Inflammation of the brain	--	---	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Congestion of the brain	--	---	---	--	--	--	1	--	1	--	--	--
Neuralgia	--	1	---	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Diseases of the Urinary and Genital Organs.												
Dysuria	--	---	---	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--
Inflammation of the Spermetic cord	--	1	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Specific Secondary Syphilis	--	---	---	1	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--

TABLE C.—*Continued.*

	December.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.
Diseases of Fibrous Structures.												
Rheumatism, Acute	--	--	--	--	1	1	--	--	--	--	--	1
" Chronic	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Abscesses.												
Paronchia	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Phlegmons	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Wounds and Injuries.												
Contusions	--	1	--	--	--	--	1	2	1	--	--	--
Fractures	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Lacerated hands	1	1	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--
Diseases of the Eye.												
Conjunctivitis	--	--	--	--	--	--	-	1	1	--	1	--
Dacryocistitis, Acute	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--
All other Diseases.												
Ostitis	1	1	1	1	1	--	--	--	--	--	2	--
Atterhoea	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	1
Lumbago	--	--	--	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

DEATHS—October 11th, 1867, Alexander Stoneking, (Phthisis.)

To the Board of Directors of the West Virginia Penitentiary:

I herewith submit the Annual Report of the sick in the West Virginia Penitentiary for the year ending the 30th day of November, 1867, to the consideration of your honorable body.

The convicts have enjoyed a reasonable share of good health. It must be expected that, sheltered as they are and worked in inclement weather, a considerable number of them should be sick.

I would suggest that the yard should be more carefully cleaned, and the stables removed further from the cells where the convicts are confined.

The Superintendent and other officers connected with the Penitentiary have uniformly tendered all the aid in their power to render the sick as comfortable as possible.

E. C. THOMAS, M. D.,
Attending Physician.